

REMARKS

The Office action mailed 19 May 2003 has been received and its contents carefully noted. Claims 1-28 were pending. By this amendment, claims 1-3, 5-10, 13-17, 19-21, and 26-28 have been canceled and new claims 29 and 30 have been added. Support may be found in the specification generally and the claims as originally filed. No statutory new matter has been added. Therefore, entry of the claims as amended is respectfully requested.

Restriction Requirement

In the Office action mailed 19 May 2003, the Examiner required a restriction as follows:

- I. Claims 1-3 are, drawn to a method of preparing a microfluidized lysate, classified in class 435, subclass 243.
- II. Claims 4, 11, 12, 18 and 22-25 are, drawn to a product, classified in class 424, subclass 269.1.
- III. Claims 5-10, 19-20 and 26-28 are, drawn to a method of detecting whether a subject had been exposed to a parasite, classified in 435, subclass 7.2.
- IV. Claims 13-16 are, drawn to a kit, classified in class 514, subclass 95.
- V. Claim 17 is, drawn to an antibody, classified in class 424, subclass 130.1.
- VI. Claim 21 is, drawn to a method of immunizing a subject, classified in class 424, subclass 184.1.

Applicants hereby elect to prosecute the claims of Invention II, without traverse. Applicants have cancelled claims 1-3, 5-10, 13-17, 19-21, and 26-28 which are directed to Inventions I and III-V. Applicants have added new claims 29 and 30 which are dependent on claim 4. Applicants note that the new claims are similar to former claims 2 and 3, however, the new claims are dependent on claim 4 and are directed to Invention II. Therefore, the newly added claims, claims 29 and 30, should be properly examined as part of elected Invention II.

Election of Species

The Examiner also required Applicants to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits.

Applicants elect *L. mexicana* as the Leishmania species; claims 12 and 30 are readable on this elected species; and claims 4, 11, 18, 22-25, and 29 are generic to this elected species.

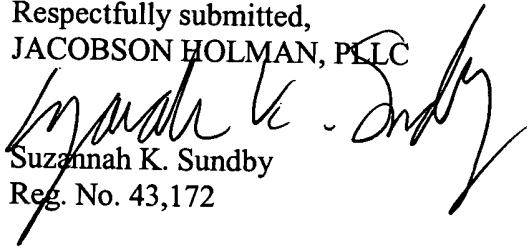
Applicants elect the composition species of claim 25; claim 25 is readable on this elected species; and claims 4, 11, 18, 22-24, 29, and 30 are generic to this elected species.

CONCLUSION

This election is made without prejudice to or disclaimer of the other claims or inventions disclosed. Applicants reserve the right to file one or more divisional applications to the non-elected groups. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement, and consideration and allowance of all pending claims, are respectfully requested.

It is not believed that extensions of time are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in accompanying documents. If, however, extensions of time under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 other than those otherwise provided for herewith are required to prevent abandonment of the present patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned, and any fees therefor are hereby authorized to be charged to our **Deposit Account No. 210-380, Attorney Docket No. P66822US0 (WRAIR 98-40/46)**.

Respectfully submitted,
JACOBSON HOLMAN, PLLC


Suzannah K. Sundby
Reg. No. 43,172

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The Jenifer Building
400 Seventh Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20004-2201
(202) 662-8497